Investment for wind power generation

824. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC proposes to foray into wind power with an investment of more than Rs. 1,200 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of wind energy being generated in the country; and

(d) the action plan to boost the generation of this energy to bridge the gap between demand and supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NTPC has informed that the business portfolio to become 75000 MW plus company by 2017 formulated by them, includes capacity addition of 1000 MW through renewable energy sources. Out of this, 650 MW is proposed through wind energy. As a first step, NTPC proposes to take up 50 MW wind farm. NTPC has signed a MOU with Asian Development Bank (ADB) in July, 2007 for setting up a Joint Venture Company to undertake renewable power generation and over the next three years, will establish and hold a portfolio of about 500 MW of renewable generation mainly wind power and mini/micro hydroelectric power projects.

(c) A wind power installed capacity of about 7200 MW has been set up in the country upto June, 2007.

(d) The Government encourages setting up of commercial wind power projects in the country through fiscal incentives such as concessional custom duty on certain components of wind electricity generator, excise duty exemption, ten years tax holiday on income generated from wind power projects, benefit of accelerated depreciation besides loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and other financial institutions. Technical support including detailed wind resource assessment to identify further potential sites is provided by the Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET). This apart, preferential tariff is being provided for wind power in most of the potential States.

Electrification of tribal villages

825. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government have approached the Union Government for electrification of tribal villages located in inaccessible areas, including mountains and forests through non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the details of the proposals sanctioned and the number of proposals still pending for approval, State-wise;